

## **Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling**

**4 April 2017**

### **Waste and Street Scene**

#### **Green Waste Charging**

The green waste charging project is going very well, as at 21 March £421,000 in come has been received this represents about 30% take up to date. Customer Services have been very busy taking calls for payments and they ask for customers' continued patience during the peak call times.

#### **Dog Fouling**

A project will be undertaken to increase the awareness of and the Council's approach to the problems caused by dog fouling. This project is already underway with re-branding the Council's Pest Control vehicles and cross training members of the team to carry out enforcement work. A specific focussed campaign will be aimed at school summer holidays where public open spaces are likely to see higher use levels.

#### **Community Litter Picking**

Community litter picks took place over the 1st weekend in March with picks arranged in Northallerton, Leeming Bar, Kirby Fleetham, Alne and Stokesley, (with the Stokesley pick becoming regular). The picks were carried out under the umbrella of Keep Britain Tidy's Big Spring Clean event. 124 sacks of rubbish were collected. More parishes are keen to get involved.

Bedale organised their own event the following weekend with local businesses contributing and Waste and Street Scene were on hand to assist. A letter of thanks has been received from Bedale Town Council.

#### **Recycling Contamination**

Following Cabinet approval the policy amendments are being implemented from now on in. It is hoped to see a significant reduction in contamination presented at the kerbside and thus increase revenue for the Council.

#### **Environmental Health**

New Manager - Vikki Flowers started working for us in late February and this appointment sees the completion of the Environmental Health Restructure. We welcome Vikki and she has already made a positive impact on the work of the service.

#### **Energy Repayment Loans**

A £25,000 fund to support home owners to improve the energy efficiency of their properties is to be administered by the Environmental Health Service in 2017-18. This can assist work such as replacement of boilers, roof insulation, replacement doors and windows or cavity wall insulation.

Environmental Health Officers will help local residents interested in the scheme to complete a loan application and in partnership with Swale Home Improvement Agency, will monitor the progress and completion works. This scheme aims to contribute to tackling fuel poverty and improving energy efficiency which are key priorities of Hambleton's Housing Assistance Policy.

Councillor Stephen Watson  
Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling